Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar *(Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) Bricks required for the Shoranur-Cochin Railway are being purchased from Messrs. Sivakami Tile works, Pudukad. No separate arrangement is made for the purchase of tiles for the Shoranur-Cochin Railway, as the reqirements of tiles for this Railway are trivial.

(*b*) In the light of the information given in answer to (*a*), Government do not consider it necessary to give any specific instruction to the Railway Company in this matter.

SHORANUR-COCHIN RAILWAY—STATIONS—PROVISION OF COVERED PLATFORMS.

124. **Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar** *(Nellayi):* Will the Government be pleased to state whether there are protections from sun and rain for the passengers who alight at the stations and who wait to catch the train after getting inside the platform in all the Stations in Cochin Line?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar *(Secretary to Government):* All the stations on the Shoranur-Eranakulam branch have been provided with waiting sheds for III class passengers. Punkunnam, Trichur, Ollur, Pudukad, Irinjalakkuda, Chalakkudi, Alwaye and Ernakulam stations are provided with separate waiting rooms for I & II class passengers. As the platforms at all the stations have only one face and the waiting sheds and upper class waiting rooms adjoin the platforms, passengers waiting to catch trains or alighting from trains take shelter, when necessary, in the waiting sheds and upper class waiting rooms. There is, therefore, no need for a separate covered way on the platform and no such covered way has been provided at any of the stations on the Shoranur-Ernakulam Branch.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* Does the Government know that before the arrival of each train, the third class passengers have to wait outside the station and that they are allowed inside only a few minutes before the arrival of each train and the gate is locked up? Similarly when trains come, the third class passengers who alight at the station have to remain on the platform till the door is opened which is generally done after the train leaves the station. So in the case of people who alight at a station and in the case of those passengers who wish to get into the train, they have to wait a few minutes on the platform exposed to the sun and rain.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar *(Secretary to Government):* Not exposed.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi):* There are no covered sheds for third class passengers in the stations. They have to wait only in the platforms.

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